

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3815

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 5343

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, CSCE, PARM, PL, RO

SUBJ: CSCE/CBMS: CANADIAN REPORT ON POLISH AND ROMANIAN
REACTIONS TO NATO MANEUVERS

REF: STATE 224488 DRG 192338Z SEP 75

AT SEPTEMBER 30 NATO POLADS MEETING, CANADIAN REP (FOWELL)
CIRCULATED FOLLOWING REPORT ON POLISH AND ROMANIAN REACTIONS
TO NATO MANEUVERS.

BEGIN TEXT:

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THE CANADIAN EMBASSIES IN WARSAW AND MOSCOW
HAVE COMMENTED RECENTLY ON POLISH AND ROMANIAN REACTIONS
TO THE HOLDING OF THE CURRENT SERIES OF NATO MANOEUVRES.

THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN WARSAW ON SEPTEMBER 26 REPORTED THAT, UNLIKE THE SOVIETS, THE POLES HAVE KEPT MUTE ON THE INTERPRETATION OF NATO EXERCISES; INDEED THE ONLY REFERENCE TO EXERCISES THAT THE EMBASSY WAS ABLE TO DISCOVER HAS BEEN IN A RELATIVELY SMALL CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER BASED IN GDANSK. THE POLES HAVE ALSO SAID PRIVATELY THAT THEY RECOGNIZE ADVANCE NOTIFICATION UNDER CBMS UNDER THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT IS NOT ONLY DESIRABLE BUT ALSO THAT THEY ARE PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS. THEY HAVE LEFT THE IMPRESSION (AND IT IS NO MORE THAN THAT) THAT THEY ARE TRYING TO AVOID BEING CAUGHT UP IN THE PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN NOW BEING WAGED BY SOVIET PRESS.

AS A FOOTNOTE, THE POLES HAVE NOT YET ESTABLISHED A FORMAL MECHANISM TO RECEIVE THE ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF MILITARY MANOEUVRES AND WHEN WE PRESENTED OUR FIRST NOTIFICATION SOME WEEKS AGO THEY SEEMED UNSURE OF TO WHOM IT SHOULD BE DELIVERED. AS AN INTERIM ARRANGEMENT THE MFA HAS TOLD US TO DELIVER SUCH NOTIFICATION TO THE GEOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR RELATIONS WITH CANADA.

ALSO ON SEPTEMBER 26 THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN MOSCOW REPORTED ON A CONVERSATION HELD THAT DAY WITH A MEMBER OF THE ROMANIAN EMBASSY THERE. INTERESTINGLY OUR INFORMANT READILY SUPPORTED THE SOVIET VIEW ON THE CURRENT SERIES OF NATO MANOEUVRES AND APPEARED TO MINIMIZE THE OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF CBMS. IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE RUMOURED SOVIET PRESSURES ON THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE WARSAW PACT IN THE DIRECTION OF DOWNPLAYING THE RECENT WESTERN NOTIFICATIONS AND INVITATIONS WHICH WERE REPORTED BY THE USA DELEGATION AT OUR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 23 MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO SUCH OPINIONS.

FIRST, OUR ROMANIAN INFORMANT IN GENERAL AGREED WITH THE SOVIET CRITICISMS AND SPECIFICALLY QUERIED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SO MANY EXERCISES BEING HELD IN SUCH A NARROW TIME FRAME. WAS IT AN ATTEMPT TO SOUND OUT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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SOVIET ATTITUDE AFTER CSCE? OUR EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE REPLIED THAT EXERCISES WERE CUSTOMARY AT THIS TIME OF YEAR AND THAT THEY DID NOT REPRESENT ANYTHING NEW. THE NOTIFICATIONS AND INVITATIONS WERE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CSCE FINAL ACT.

AS FOR THE NOTIFICATIONS AND INVITATIONS TO OBSERVE CERTAIN TREK, OUR ROMANIAN INFORMANT CLAIMED IGNORANCE IN THE CASE OF HIS OWN COUNTRY AND WOULD NOT VOLUNTEER A VIEW ON THE SOVIET SILENCE.

FINALLY, ACCORDING TO THE ROMANIAN EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE, ROMANIA HELD MANOEUVRES OF SUCH SMALL

SCALE THAT THEY SAW NO NEED TO NOTIFY THEM. IN ADDITION
HE SAID NO FOREIGN TROOPS WERE ALLOWED ON ROMANINA
TERRITORY.

END TEXT.STREATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: PFOR, NATO, CSCE, PARM, PL, RO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO BELGRADE
BERLIN
BUCHAREST
BUDAPEST
MOSCOW

OTTAWA
PRAGUE
SOFIA
WARSAW
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
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